Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 SSC-01 CPR-01 DHA-02 /078 W
-------162113Z 068400 /70

R 161818Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2335
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PFOR, NU

SUBJECT: NICARAGUA REPORTEDLY PLANNING TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH FOURTEEN COUNTRIES

SUMMARY: HIGH NICARAGUAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL TOLD DCM THIS WEEKEND THAT NICARAGUA WILL BE ANNOUNCING VERY SHORTLY, PERHAPS WITHIN THE WEEK, THAT IT IS ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH FOURTEEN COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD. END SUMMARY.

1. GUILLERMO LANG, LONG-TIME NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR TO THE UNITED NATIONS, IS PRESENTLY IN MANAGUA. HE TOLD DCM THAT IN THE NEAR FUTURE HE WOULD BE VISITING TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND JAMAICA, WHERE HE WOULD BE VISITING TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AND JAMAICA, WHERE HE WOULD BE ACCREDITED AS AMBASSADOR (IN ADDITION TO HIS UN ROLE) AND THAT A SMALL EMBASSY WITH A RESIDENT CHARGE WOULD BE OPENED SHORTLY IN EACH COUNTRY. HE ALSO SAID THAT PRESIDENT SOMOZA THIS PAST WEEK APPROVED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH TWELVE OTHER OTHER COUNTRIES, BUT THAT THEY WOULD BE NON-RESIDENT REPRESENTATIONS. LANG COULD NOT REMEMBER ALL THE COUNTRIES ON THE LIST BUT HE DID MENTION ROMANIA, KENYA, NIGERIA, KUWAIT, QUATAR AND UNITED ARAB EMIRATES. EMBASSY IS SEEKING TO VERIFY LANG'S CLAIMS.

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2. FOREIGN MINISTER ALEJANDRO MONTIEL WAS AT SAME SOCIAL FUNCTION AND TOLD DCM THAT NICARAGUA COULD CONCEIVABLY ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH CUBA, BUT ONLY ON TWO CONDITIONS. HE SAID THAT CUBA WOULD HAVE TO GET OUT OF ANGOLA AND WOULD HAVE TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS WITHIN CUBA. MONTIEL WAS VERY EMOTIONAL ON LATTER POINT, USUALLY A SORE ONE WITHIN NICARAGUA, BUT REPEATED THAT THERE ARE NO PROTECTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS INSIDE CUBA. HE LATER ADDED THE POSSIBILITY OF A THIRD

PRE-CONDITION: THAT CUBA WOULD HAVE TO STOP EXPORTING REVOLUTION TO LATIN AMERICA. INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, IN THE SAME CONVERSATION, MONTIEL SAID THAT NICARAGUA SUGAR INDUSTRY WAS ORGANIZING A GOOD-SIZE DELEGATION TO SEND TO CUBA LATE IN THE MONTH FOR INTERNATIONAL SUGAR TALKS. HE WAS NOT SURE WHO WOULD COMPOSE THE DELEGATION, BUT SAID THERE MIGHT BE GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES.

3. MONTIEL ALSO SAID THAT NICARAGUA WOULD LIKE TO ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC

RELATIONS WITH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, BUT WISHED TO DO SO ON THE BASIS OF TWO CHINAS. SINCE NEITHER TAIWAN NOR THE PRC IS WILLING TO ACCEPT SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT, MONTIEL READILY ADMITTED THAT THE PROSPECTS WERE NOT GOOD FOR PRC RELATIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

- 4. HAVING RECEIVED LANG'S INFORMATION, EMBOFF ASKED HARRY BODAN, VICE MINISTER FOREIGN RELATIONS, ABOUT AUTHENTICITY LANG INFO. BODAN SAID THAT GON HAD BEEN CONSIDERING ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH MANY OTHER COUNTRIES FOR A LONG TIME BUT, OTHER THAN JAMAICA, HAD MADE NO DEFINITE DECISIONS.
- 5. COMMENT: IT IS POSSIBLE THAT LANG IS MERELY SPOUTING OFF TO IMPRESS US WITH HIS IMPORTANCE AND GIVE EMPHASIS TO HIS PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH PRESIDENT SOMOZA. IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT WHAT LANG REPORTED IS TRUE AND THAT NON-INSIDER BODAN HAS NOT YET GOTTEN THE WORD. EMBASSY IS ATTEMPTING TO CONFIRM AND TO DEVELOP ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED**

Concepts: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 16-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MANAGU00764
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770055-1117 Format: TEL From: MANAGUA

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770236/aaaabgaj.tel Line Count: 88

Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History: Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM Message ID: 7defa1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION ARA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 31-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3307878 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

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GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL TOLD TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, NU, XX, JA, TD

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7defa1c5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Review Markings:

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